

NORTH MOLINO

This is the last time we get to write to the dear old Message in 1914, but we were glad we have been spared another year. We wrote a letter for the first copy of the Message published in Mexico, and we are permitted to write one for the last copy in 1914. Many years for the Message and its editor.

Charles Cauthorn of Edmond, Oklahoma, came home last Friday to eat Christmas dinner with his mother, Mrs. Mary Cauthorn. Charley went to Oklahoma about 21 years ago. This is the second time he has been here in that time.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dudley entertained at dinner last Saturday Mr. Cash Botts, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Fry of Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Herod Cauthorn.

Mr. Walter Henderson and little daughter are visiting Mrs. Henderson's husband's parents and other friends near Humphrey, Mo.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Heizer, of Walton, Nebraska, a son.

Last Sunday morning Chal Henderson and son, Chal, started to Bethel to church. Their team scared at Morrison Beamer's automobile that had gone dead in the road. Father and son were thrown out of the rig and over a four foot wire fence. The rig was torn to pieces but Mr. Henderson and son not much injured.

Miss Ruth Cook and her pupils gave an entertainment at Fisher school one afternoon last week.

Miss Ethel Peyton who is attending college at Chillicothe, visited her aunt, Mrs. Jewell Hodge, north of Rush Hill, from Thursday till Sunday. She says she likes the school fine. Says the Message is a welcome from home each week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Cauthorn entertained a number of friends from Mexico last Saturday.

Ira Mayes and Almer Mundy both delivered horses to Powell & Mundy at Mexico last Wednesday at 7 cents per pound. Wm. Asberry who has been in a very critical condition for the past three weeks is holding his own, that is all. We hope he may soon take a turn for the better.

The entertainment and Christmas tree at Mt. Zion last Thursday was a great success. The house was crowded, seats full and isles packed.

Mr. Clay Hensley who has lived with Joe Miller the last year has bought property near Florida and is moving there.

Mrs. Lela Goodrich is spending the holidays with relatives in Mexico. Mr. Earnest Vanlandingham and wife and son were guests of Mrs. Goodrich's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peak of Mexico, last Saturday and Sunday. Oscar Martin and family spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rudasill of near Long Branch. The good people around Molino sent quite a donation to the Home for Aged Women at Mexico. It consisted of canned fruit and spare ribs, backbone and sausage in abundance.

Miss Cora Mundy and friend visited friends near Paris last Sunday. Mr. Nova Miller went to Norborne, Mo., last Saturday to visit his aunt, Mrs. Forest Clemments. Friendship Club held their oyster supper at Mr. and Mrs. Young's near Lone Branch last Wednesday night.

HIGH HILL DISTRICT

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to the Message and all its readers.

C. E. Sellers delivered a wagon load of hogs at Centralia Monday.

The Union Mutual Telephone Company of Centralia will have their annual meeting the second day of January. All interested are requested to be present.

Phillip Dalby sold seven fat hogs recently at \$6.75. Edgar Sims is moving to Centralia to deliver coal for a Mr. Kanetzer.

Elmer Shock bought 40 bbls. of corn of Charley Quisenberry at 80 cents per bushel. W. T. Puls visited his mother, Aunt Margaret Puls, of Mexico recently. Huss Mildred sold his cattle to Tom Hodge last Saturday. Mrs. Jim Lanham of Ten Mile, south of Columbia, who formerly lived in our District, visited homefolks here the past week.

Edgar Sims sold his fat hogs to Wheeler Gant at Thompson at 7 cents. Elmer Shock sold two fat hogs at 7 cents. Frank Berry has rented the Matthews farm in our district. Will Stowers will move to Centralia in the near future. He is employed at the Thomas lumber yard at \$40 per month and is furnished.

Elmer Puls and family of near Fallsville visited at his father's, B. F. Puls' Saturday. Edgar Sims sold a Jersey cow for \$100.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Sims entertained all their children at home Sunday except Emmett and wife of Moberly. B. F. Puls and wife were also present. All partook of a sumptuous dinner. Mrs. Sims and daughters know how to fix it up. Oh, my, the good things to eat—oysters and ham and cranberries, custard, cakes, pies, fruit, salad and candies and other things made a fine Christmas dinner. All enjoyed the day hugely and were glad they were there.

Mr. Musick is not so well. Is gradually getting weaker.

Frank M. Traugher in an election held last week was chosen as the nominee for postmaster of Centralia. He received 281 votes and his nearest competitor 130. There were three or four other candidates also. Traugher is a popular fellow up that way.

An ordinance to amend Section 60 of Ordinance No. 22 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Mexico for 1910 entitled "Licenses".

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the CITY OF MEXICO, as follows:

Section 1. That section 60 of Ordinance No. 22 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Mexico for 1910 entitled "Licenses" be amended by striking therefrom the words, "Astrologist, clairvoyant, or fortune teller for year \$10.00" in the sixth line thereof.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall be in effect from and after its passage by the Council, approval by the Mayor and publication as provided by law and the ordinances of the City of Mexico.

Passed this 28th day of December, 1914.

J. W. DRY, President of the City Council.

Approved this 29th day of December, 1914.

J. W. DRY, Mayor of the City of Mexico

Attest: WALLACE DEARING City Clerk.

Mexico, Santa Fe & Perry Traction Co.

Leaves Mexico Leaves Molino
7:00 a. m. 8:00 a. m.
9:30 a. m. 10:30 a. m.
1:30 p. m. (freight trip) 2:30 p. m.
4:00 p. m. 4:45 p. m.

Sunday Schedule

Leaves Mexico Leaves Molino
8:30 a. m. 9:30 a. m.
1:30 p. m. 2:30 p. m.
4:00 p. m. 4:45 p. m.

J. D. Bates, Supt.

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CHRISTMAS SPIRIT ABIDES

Wonderous indeed was the mission of the Christ Child! He gave himself to the world on the first Christmas day, and with him came every other good gift.

With him came bountiful tables and good cheer in lordly and homely homes and happy parents and merry children. Men's hearts thawed out, and long faces grew shorter, and sad eyes twinkled with glad, and evergreens sparkled with candles and bore marvelous fruit of loving gifts, simple or costly, in millions of homes.

The trees wither, the toys get broken, the glowing tables are lightened of their load. Dec. 25 is succeeded by the cold, dark days of mid-winter, but the spirit of Christmas abides. In a way every day is a Christmas day, for the Christ Spirit does not take its flight. Every day of the year ministering spirits go about their humble, homely tasks. Every day some one is catching the blessed contagion of Christmas and learning that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Ah, yes, every day is a Christmas day to him who learns this secret of secret—Rev. P. B. Benson, D. D.

CHRISTMAS SEALS WIN.

Widespread Sales Prove Their Hold on Favor of the Public.

MORE than 44,000,000 Red Cross Christmas seals were sold last December, according to a report issued by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis and the American Red Cross. In this way \$440,000 was netted for anti-tuberculosis work in various parts of the United States.

The sale in 1913 is a gain of 4,000,000 seals over 1912, or 10 per cent. It is hoped that this year the 50,000,000 mark will be reached. The seal design for 1914 has been selected, and orders for the printing of 100,000,000 seals have been placed.

New York state led the country last year with a sale of over 10,500,000 seals or one for each man, woman and child in the state. Of this number more than 6,825,000 were sold outside of New York city. Pennsylvania came next with a sale of 3,125,000. Ohio was third with 2,800,000. Wisconsin fourth with 2,700,000, and Illinois fifth with 2,500,000. Hawaii sold the most seals per capita, the total sale being somewhat over two for each inhabitant. Rhode Island came second with a sale of two per person.

Beginning with a sale of 13,500,000 in 1908, in six seasons the revenue which these little holiday seals have brought to the anti-tuberculosis campaign has more than tripled, an aggregate for the period of over \$1,800,000 or 180,000,000 seals.

Business Even at Christmas.

She was a sentimental young girl and had devoted much time and tender thought to the home decorations for Christmas. Her surprise may be imagined when she came downstairs one morning and found the decorations moved around. The mistletoe boughs that had been half hidden in secluded places had been substituted for the holly wreaths and were now hung in the front windows in plain view of passersby.

"Say, sister," explained her little brother, "you've had that mistletoe hanging up for nearly a week and you haven't had a single customer. You're not up to date. What you want to do is to advertise."—Judge.

Where Santa First Appeared.

It was in New York, or, rather, New Amsterdam, that Santa Claus made his first American appearance in something like the garb and manner now familiar to all of us. From the Netherlands the Knickerbockers brought with them the Christmas of love and sympathy in religion, of comradeship among neighbors and of festivity in the family.

CHRISTMAS MORNING'S NO TIME TO SLEEP



How Cubans Celebrate Christmas.

CUBANS celebrate Christmas, but not in the same manner that Americans do. Santa Claus is unknown in Havana. There are no chimneys by which he could enter houses, and there is no snow on which his sleigh can glide. So the little Cubans do not hang up their stockings in expectation of gifts.

The Cubans give presents in connection with the Christmas celebration, but this is done on Jan. 6, "El Dia de los Reyes." The day of the kings Cuba celebrates the visit of the three wise men—Balthazar, Melchior and Gaspar—to the infant Jesus with their offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh. This is the annual love gift day, when the Cubans give their children and dear ones beautiful presents in our bountiful Christmas manner.

In Cuba you don't ask a child, "What do you want Santa Claus to bring you?" but, "What are the wise men of the east going to give you?"

Instead of our Christmas day dinner, the Cubans have a great family reunion, the Christmas eve supper, called the "cena de noche buena," or "supper of the good night." The long table is graced by three and four generations of the large families in gay attire.

The Christmas eve supper is the great yearly family feast in which the elder generation gives a blessing to the young somewhat akin to that of the old patriarchs. The long festal board is spread in the great dining room, the high ceiling and walls of which are covered with festoons and floral decorations. The table is also adorned with Cuba's many fruits, fragrant flowers, tall paraffin colored candles and a monstrous golden cornucopia filled with delicious Cuban sweets. No big roast Christmas turkey is seen, but instead a plump, juicy, gayly bedecked roast pig is the table's centerpiece.

A famous accompanying dish is the great pyramid of boiled white rice and black beans, or "Moros y Cristianos," as the Cubans dub it in remembrance of the wars between the Moors and Christians in old Spain. This delicacy is much relished, and many are the ancestral jests made in the eating of it. The choicest vintages of Spain are served in abundance, and the air is fragrant with tobacco smoke.

The Christmas eve dinner of several hours concludes with the thick black Spanish chocolate and various liqueurs made in Cuba. At midnight the cock crow mass commemorating our Saviour's birth is announced by the ringing of the great bronze bells in Havana's many churches. Blares of shrill trumpets, guitar serenades in the streets and joyous singing of many Christmas carols accompany the thousands of worshippers to the ceremony.

In Havana this mass is largely attended by the devout, and the narrow streets leading to the cathedral and other churches are crowded by the worshippers. The church services are most impressive. Large bodies of well trained voices beautify the mass. There are no pews in the Cuban churches. The worshippers kneel on the marble floor or on cushions brought for the purpose. There is perfect democracy in the service. Rich and poor alike share in the mass.

The Christmas afternoon is devoted to many outdoor games. Hatless, coatless, shoeless, the young Cubans play along the coral ocean shores and great palm tree avenues. The goat is the children's favorite animal, and he is kept busy on Christmas day drawing the youngsters throughout all the parks.

The Spaniards in Cuba retain some old customs of their native land. The swarthy seniors form rings of dancers in public plazas and sing Spain's many old sacred airs. The bandurrias and guarachas, much like our banjo ditties, are pleasing accompaniments.

The wealthier Spanish and Cuban families spend Christmas week at their stately homes on the vast sugar plantations in Santa Clara, Puerto Principe and other provinces. They gather about them merry house parties, which continue until the New Year's. Their hospitality is generous, and Americans are fortunate to be guests. The grandparents have their several generations of children and renew the old peninsular Christmas customs.

A sumptuous evening dinner is followed by the languorous Spanish dance. An aristocratic old don will lead the papalote, which is similar to our old father's hornpipe. He is followed by the young seniors and senioritas, often in gay Spanish court costumes.

Throughout the smaller towns of Cuba's provinces the poorer classes during the Christmas week hang on the front walls of their humble homes a large basket. The passerby is cordially greeted from the door and windows of the shack or peasant's more pretentious home with a most cordial "May God bless you and yours for ever and ever." In return the recipients of the benediction put small coins, Christmas fruits and delicacies and religious ornaments in the hanging basket.

Under the Holly Bough.

Ye who have scorned each other Or injured friend or brother In this fast fading year, Ye who by word or deed Have made a kind heart bleed Come gather here Let sinners against and sinning Forget their strife's beginning And join in friendship now Be links no longer broken; Be sweet forgiveness spoken Under the holly bough.

—Charles Mackay.

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Train	West Bound	Leave
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No. 23, From St. Louis	daily	1 30 a. m.
No. 21, From St. Louis	daily	12 40 p. m.

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